

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

**A. Please cancel claims 1-16 without prejudice or disclaimer.**

**B. Please add new claims 17-32 as follows:**

17. (New) A method of moulding a reinforced nodal structure which includes laying down a cored reinforcement of constant cross section in and along the channels of a nodal mould and across the nodes thereof by repeated passes along the channels to at least partially fill the channels, closing the mould, and curing resin provided around the reinforcement.

<sup>2</sup>  
A 18. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the reinforcement is a foam-cored carbon fibre structure.

19. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the channels are overfilled whereby closing the mould compresses the reinforcement.

20. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the laying down involves relative movement of a feeder head and the mould and control of the feed of reinforcement, all under computer numerical control (CNC).

21. (New) A method according to claim 20, which includes also severing lengths of the reinforcement in the feeder head under CNC.

22. (New) A method according to claim 17, which includes thermally tacking reinforcement to a preceding layer of reinforcement.

23. (New) A method according to claim 17, which includes introducing at least one insert in the mould to divert locally the reinforcement, to provide localised strengthening and/or to provide a mounting point.

*A<sup>2</sup>  
cont*

24. (New) A machine for laying down reinforcement for a composite moulded nodal frame structure having a feeder head and a mould, means for feeding cored reinforcement of constant cross-section through the feeder head which causes relative movement of the feeder head and the mould so that the reinforcement is laid down in and along a channel of the mould.

25. (New) A machine according to claim 24, wherein the feeder head additionally includes means for severing the reinforcement into lengths.

26. (New) A machine according to claim 24, which is under CNC.

27. A machine according to claim 24, wherein the feeder head includes also a radiant heater.

28. (New) An elongate cored reinforcement of constant cross-section for forming a composite moulded article, the reinforcement comprising an envelope of strength-giving fibres surrounding a core of expansible material.

29. (New) A cored reinforcement according to claim 28, in which the fibres are carbon fibres.

<sup>2</sup>  
A cont 30. (New) A cored reinforcement according to claim 28, in which the envelope of strength-giving fibres has a braided structure.

31. (New) A cored reinforcement according to claim 28, in which the expansible material is a closed cell foam material.

32. (New) A method of moulding a composite article which comprises laying in a mould at least one length of the reinforcement of claim 28, closing the mould, reducing the pressure in the mould to cause expansion of the reinforcement to reduce void space within and around the reinforcement, and curing resin deposited around the reinforcement.